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rooms.

The State debt of Indiana is as distinctively

a Democratic measure as is the

new tax law.

The big Welsh tin-plate trust should

recognize the zealous services of the

free-trade papers in this country by

sending them an supply of tin-ware which

will enable them to escape patronizing the

American manufacturers of that article.

After the revival of the pearl button

industry in New Jersey under the new

tariff law, the pearl button editor retired

temporarily from public view. It is

hardly necessary to inquire what has be-

come of him. He has resumed business as

a tin-plate hawker.

If any of the new party leaders have

their ears to the ground to receive the

first thundering response of the Ameri-

can people, they are destined to an ex-

tended wait, and will be forced to accept

the piping acclaim of some far-away be-

liever who was not present at Cincin-

nati.

As there were about a thousand mem-

bers of the Cincinnati Convention who

demanded that the country be put upon

a basis of irredeemable paper money,

would it not be cheaper to ship the

crowd to the Argentine Republic, where

there is fiat money galore and the prem-

ium on coin is 300?

The padded enumeration of school

children in different parts of the State

has figured prominently in the charges

of inaccuracy and fraud against the

United States census. It will be in or-

der now for the able editors who have

been using the school statistics for that

purpose to cut humble pie.

Some one has telegraphed the New

York Times, the only morning Clevel-

and organ in that city, that Kentucky

is for Mr. Cleveland and that a large

majority of the delegates in the late

convention were enthusiastically in his

favor. Evidently the zeal of the Times

has led it into being made the victim of

a practical joke.

If it is true, as the Memphis Appeal-

Avalanche says, that the interest in

favor of the sub-treasury scheme is dy-

ing out in Mississippi, the People's con-

vention can congratulate itself that it is

behind the people of one of the least pro-

gressive States in the Union. It is more

than probable that benighted Arkansas

will have discarded the lunacy before

the national conventions meet.

The General Assembly of the Presby-

terian Church, now in session at Detroit,

has decided to postpone action on the

proposed revision of the Confession of

Faith till next year, referring the mat-

ter, meanwhile, to the presbyteries for

further expression. In a matter of so

grave importance to the church this is,

doubtless, wise, especially as there is no

necessity for hasty action.

The value of imports during last

March was \$30,622,175, compared with

\$25,088,334 in March, 1890, while the du-

tiable imports are valued at \$46,993,976

last March against \$49,661,673 in March,

1890. All of which goes to show that the

importation of free goods is a larger part

of the whole under the McKinley law

and that the total importation is larger

than under the corresponding period of

the old law.

The Toronto Globe compares the na-

tional debt of the United States with

that of Canada, to the decided disad-

vantage of the latter. It shows that

while the debt of the United States has

been reduced from \$67 per head in 1868

to \$15 per head in 1889, that of Canada

has increased during the same period

from \$22 per head to \$46. The truth is,

this is the only country in the world that

is steadily reducing its national debt.

The Florida House of Representatives

has passed a resolution ordering the

ejectment from the privileges of the

House of any representative of a news-

paper upon the complaint of a member

that he has "misrepresented or mis-

quoted his integrity or impugned his

motives." This destroys the vocation

of the critic regarding legislative mat-

ters; but it makes no difference in Flor-

highest court of the State for principal

and interest. The entire proceeding is

a good example of Democratic financ-

ing.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

The man who remembers political

history will save himself much useless

speculation and some possible anxiety.

Those who see only present political

movements and believe that they are

unique and mark the beginning of a

political revolution, forget or never

know political history. Just now the

remarkable assemblage which met and

made a new party at Cincinnati on Tuesday

and Wednesday is attracting a little

attention. A few who talk and prophesy

most, and have the least information and

the largest historical requirements, are

saying that the like was never before.

In some respects it never was. The

evolution of political calamities tends

every year to more positive lunacy. In

other respects, the assemblage which

made the People's party is but a repeti-

tion of history along the same lines.

Feb. 22, 1878, a meeting embracing

some men who were active in the Cin-

cinnati convention was held in Toledo.

There were fewer attendants from a few

States, but more States were represented

by men who had a wider reputation.

General Butler was behind it; General

Weaver was there in direction; General

Sam Cary, of Ohio, was there; so was

Harper, of Illinois; Solon Chase, of

Maine; Boynton, of Massachusetts; Tru-

pou, of Connecticut; Cunningham, of

Arkansas, who figured in the last meet-

ing; Brick Pomeroy, and many other

men who had a sort of national reputa-

tion. In point of recognized ability the

Toledo convention was more important

than the Cincinnati meeting. It was a

representative convention rather than

a mass-meeting of citizens of Kansas,

Ohio and Nebraska. It deliberated, and

adopted a platform containing the more

moderate features of the flat-money

heresy. It announced the birth of the

National party in an address to the peo-

ple. The meeting opened with prayer,

was decorous in its deliberations, and

closed by singing the Doxology. The

time was opportune for such a change

as the convention proposed, for the

reason that the country was in the last

years of a period of financial and in-

dustrial depression and paralysis which

began in September, 1873. There were

more idle people at that time than at

any subsequent period in the history of

the country. Warehouses were crowded

with unsold and depreciating merchan-

dise, factories were closed or running on

short time, and general stagnation pre-

vailed. At the same time the adminis-

tration was making provision to return

to specie payments, in which a majority

of the people had little or no faith. The

result of that movement and the out-

come of that new party did not seriously

affect the congressional elections in the

North which followed in the fall, before

there had been any change for the better

in the business situation. In the presi-

dential election of 1880 the National

candidate received 368,528 votes in all

the States.

The assemblage which made the new

party at Cincinnati, Wednesday, met at

a time when all of the industries of the

country were never more generally

prosperous, and when the out-

look of the agricultural interests, for

whose benefit it was called, was

never more hopeful, and when a

feeling of confidence and courage per-

vaded all business and enterprise. It was

not a representative assemblage, and it

put forth a proclamation of aims and

purposes which added to the flat-money

heresy of 1878 the lunacies of govern-

ment money-lending and pawnbroking

for one class. Its proceedings were not

deliberations, but the boisterous conten-

tions of noisy cranks. Its first meeting

began with the Lord's prayer, but so

contentious and ill considered were its

results that the creators of the new

party could not have closed their pan-

demonium by singing the Doxology.

If the National party of 1878, inaugu-

rated under so favorable conditions and

with orderly earnestness, was so misera-

ble a failure, can the People's party,

launched at Cincinnati by a babel of dis-

contented and disappointed men, under

the most unfavorable conditions as to

circumstances and time, escape the fate

of political abortions and monstrosities?

THE SCHOOL ENUMERATION.

There is nothing surprising in the dis-

covery of large errors in the school

enumeration of this city and township.

They would have been discovered long

ago if a rigid method of enumeration

had been adopted. These errors, to call

them by a very mild name, extend over

many years. Originally they grew out

of a desire to get back for the city and

township as much as possible of their

large contribution to the school fund,

and when it was found that a "padded"

enumeration was an effective means of

doing this the practice was continued

from year to year. It was not confined

to this city, but has prevailed in most of

the cities of the State, and in some to a

much greater extent than here.

The old law was an invitation to fraud-

ulent enumerations. Under it the school

tax and all school revenues went into a

common fund, which was distributed

among the various townships according

to the number of children

of school age reported by each

one. The larger the enumeration the

larger the township's pro rata share of

the school fund. Some townships paid

more into the fund than they got back,

while others drew out more than they

paid in. This city and township has al-

ways paid in more than it got back.

The excess was so great and the

means of offsetting it so obvious that the

township assessors finally resorted to a

padded enumeration. This worked so

well that the error or fraud was carried

along from year to year. The assessors

might have known that the enumeration

was erroneous if they had cared to, but

it was not their interest to know it,

and the law was not stringent

enough to secure an accurate enumera-

tion. Moreover, the starvation wages

paid the enumerators was a further

temptation to make false returns—an

illustration, by the way, of the folly of

employing cheap labor for public serv-

ice. The School Board had no means of

verifying the enumeration, and were en-

tirely justified in accepting the pro rata

share of the school fund as based on the

erroneous enumeration. Thus, owing

to a defective law and a desire to ob-

viate a palpable injustice, the padded

enumeration was carried along from

year to year. Notwithstanding this,

however, this city and township have

paid into the school fund, every year,

considerably more than they have got

back, while many others have continued

to draw out more than they paid in. The

padded enumeration worked only par-

tial justice.

The new law requires the enumerators

to take the street number and the name

of the parent or guardian of every child

of school age. This has resulted in a re-

duction of 13,500 in the enumeration for

Center township, which means an ap-

parent loss to our school fund of

about \$44,000. This is a disagreeable

surprise for the School Board, and it be-